



# THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents

Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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October 1997

## Balancing ambition & patience pays off for Jay Snyder at Blackstone National G.C.

Ambition and patience just don't seem to hit it off. They form a strange mix. One accelerates, the other brakes. Putting them together probably means you're going nowhere fast.

But not so for Jay Snyder, the five-year assistant to Indian Ridge golf course superintendent Roger Brink. Last month Jay took the giant step all assistants practice along their career's way when he moved up to the head superintendent post at the under-construction Blackstone National Golf Club.

This is Jay's first top job. It's the culmination of a well-planned career he put into place when he was hitting the books (and the golf ball) as a student at Stockbridge School in 1987.

"Stockbridge was a great place for me," Snyder recalled. "I received the education I needed and had fun doing it. Jim Reinertson (Dedham Country and

Polo Club superintendent) and I played on the school golf team. Sometimes he played No. 1, sometimes I was in that spot. Anyway, we were a pretty good one-two punch. We went undefeated our last year there. Then, it was out into the cruel world of reality."

Snyder was one-up on his career opportunities because of the experience he gained working and playing around the Little Harbor Golf Club in Wareham.

He spent summers there as a youth, and when he came out of Stockbridge in 1989, he headed there for extensive apprenticeship bouts.

"I really wasn't sure whether I wanted to get involved in the business as a pro or as a super," Jay explained. "So, while I was at Little Harbor, and I stayed there until 1984, I worked in the pro shop and on the golf course. The folks there (the Jones family) were very good to me. It was a big break for me. So, when Roger Brink called me to take over as his assistant at Indian Ridge, I was ready

to take the job and an increase in job responsibility."

Brink was the perfect boss for Snyder. "He kept kicking in with more responsible tasks as my experience began to pile up," Jay told. I saw how he operated and envisioned myself in the same position down the road. When I left, I was running work crews that sometimes reached 20 people. When Roger had to be away from the course, I was in charge. He had that much faith in me that he knew the course would be handled just as he did when he was aboard. I really feel that I maxed out as an assistant under Roger."

Yet Snyder revealed that he always had the patience to keep his ambition on hold as he gained the experience and knowledge he would need when it was time to leave Indian Ridge for his own job. The blueprints had been set up when he started at Indian Ridge in 1994. Jay figured that by the time he was 30 years

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***"This is where I wanted to be 10 years ago when I took a look at my future. I had this kind of job in the back of my mind all the while I was preparing to become a head superintendent. I was ambitious, but I tempered it with patience. We'll just have to wait and see if this was the right way to make it in my profession."***

***Jay Snyder  
Blackstone National G.C.***





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***"I had a couple of feelers for head superintendent jobs before this one, but they weren't the kind I really wanted."***

**Jay Snyder**  
**Blackstone National G.C.**

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old, he would be ready to take the big step. It was offered in his fourth year as Brink's top aide.

"I had a couple of feelers for head superintendent jobs before this one," Jay disclosed. "But they weren't the kind I really wanted. So the Blackstone National job had to be something special, and it is."

Snyder admits that he didn't think he had much of a shot at the job when he went for his first interview. A lot of qualified people were in competition with Jay, and most had head superintendent experience. However, his credentials and attitude impressed the Blackstone ownership and he landed the job.

"They were looking for someone with enough self-confidence to express himself in that manner," Jay told. "But, mostly, they wanted someone who wasn't afraid to get his hands dirty on the job. Fortunately, that's the part of the profession I love. I like to pitch in, do the nuts and bolts things."

Blackstone National is a giant of a golf course in-waiting. It's located in Sutton (about three miles from Pleasant Valley) and is projected as a "high-scale public course". Its architect, Rees Jones, comes from the elite list of that profession. He has built and remodeled many outstanding layouts including the paragon of mid-South courses, the Country Club of North Carolina. Rees also has strong professional blood lines, being the second son of famed architect Robert Trent Jones.

Snyder has one thing in common with Rees. "Right," Jay nodded. "At one time we both carried seven handicaps. I don't know where his stands now, but mine's shot up. I've been putting my golf game on the back burner for the last three years. But that's another story."

Blackstone National follows the design of other Rees Jones productions. It will

be a real test from the back tees (filling out at 7,000 yards), but a comfortable challenge from the middle and front tees.

"My immediate input is to coordinate the shaping and installation of greens with the general contractor," Jay said. "The ultimate goal at this stage is to have everything set in place to grow at the end of October. During that setting-up period I'll concentrate on the task of 'erosion control manager'. The ultimate hope is to have 18 holes open by July 4, 1998."

The course will be trying to attract golfers who appreciate the game and want quality conditions. That combination spells upscale. Therefore, much of the pressure will be on Snyder.

And Jay accepts it. "This is where I wanted to be 10 years ago when I took a look at my future," he leveled. "I had this kind of job in the back of my mind all the while I was preparing to become a head superintendent. I was ambitious, but I tempered it with patience. We'll just have to wait and see if this was the right way to make it in my profession."

**GERRY FINN**

## Calendar

- |            |                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 14    | <b>GCSANE Monthly Meeting</b><br><b>Supt./Club Official Tournament</b><br>Brae Burn Country Club<br>Newton, Mass.<br>Supt. - Robert DiRico, CGCS                     |
| Oct. 22    | <b>Pro-Superintendent Tournament</b><br>Willowbend Country Club<br>Mashpee, Mass.<br>Supt. - Christopher Tufts                                                       |
| Nov. 3     | <b>GCSANE Monthly Meeting</b><br><b>9-Hole Meeting</b><br><b>&amp; Education Session</b><br>Longmeadow Country Club<br>Lowell, Mass.<br>Supt. - Richard French       |
| Nov. 13-14 | <b>Seminar: Managing People</b><br><b>for Peak Performance</b><br><b>and Job Satisfaction</b><br>The International<br>Bolton, Mass.<br>(Information: 1-800-472-7878) |
| Dec. 2     | <b>GCSANE Monthly Meeting</b><br>Andover Country Club<br>Andover, Mass.<br>Supt. - Wayne LaCroix, CGCS                                                               |
| January 2  | <b>GCSANE Monthly Meeting</b><br>Woodland Golf Club<br>Newton, Mass.<br>Supt. - Dave Mucciarone                                                                      |



# The Super Speaks Out

## This month's question:

*What techniques do you use, how often is it necessary, and what is your general overview of overseeding?*

### Joe Piana, Norwood Country Club:

"Overseeding turns out to be a necessary part of the maintenance program, but one that is dictated by amount of play and damage the players create in critical areas.

"For example, Norwood is a club where a lot of leagues play during the height of the season. When they're in full bloom, the course gets as much traffic as it can bear. Therefore, overseeding is very important in retaining turf in the heavy traffic spots.

"We have small teeing areas on our par threes, so the par threes take a beating. For them, overseeding is a once-a-month necessity. It's a two-man job: one for slicing and feeding, the other following with a shot of top-dressing.

"The rest of our tees, those other than the par threes, are overseeded four times a year, beginning in May, which is when we aerify our greens.

"Another factor in the number of times we have to overseed is the type of player the course attracts. Norwood is a relatively easy course. That means we have a lot of beginners, which, in turn, means there's going to be a lot of big-time divots out there. When that happens, overseeding has to happen, too.

"I've looked into contracting our overseeding. However, since we have to rely on a lot of it, there would be too much expense involved. Besides, I have access to a number of college kids who can do the overseeding on a part-time basis.

"As far as fairways go, overseeding follows the pattern of damage to the turf. It works out to a formula that says the more troubled the fairway, the more times it's overseeded. In contrast, the less troubled the fairway, the fewer instances of overseeding. I've had some fairways that go two years before needing overseeding. In the end, it all depends on how we control turf damage. It dictates our overseeding program."

### Jack Hassett, Mt. Pleasant Golf Club:

"We've taken the easy way out in getting our overseeding done. Four years ago, we began contracting overseeding, and in the end it's worth every dollar the club spends.

"Mt. Pleasant is a nine-hole course with 350 members. All of those members are avid golfers. That puts the premium on turf conditions because of the double-traffic pattern our golf season places on the greens, fairways, and tees.

"Our contractor overseeds the fairways every August. That's a once-a-year deal and strictly for the fairways. Our roughs we let go and don't overseed them more than once every three years.

"That pretty much takes care of the contracting aspect of our overseeding program. However, I should add that our members like putting the fairway overseeding out for bid. The contractor comes in and the job is completed in five hours. Before, or when we did it ourselves, it

took one man a week's time to do that same job.

"Tees and greens are another story. We don't overseed greens. The members overseed the tees on a daily basis. We have a pail, filled with a combination of grasses (bents, rye), and a scoop to spread the mixture. Members do the overseeding, and also move the tee markers when they think that's necessary.

"The results of our program have been very satisfactory. The fairway overseeding takes five hours and the grass is sprouting in a matter of eight days. In fact, the contracting method is so effective, the members have decided that our aerification should go out to bid, too."

### Jack Murphy, Hillview Country Club:

"We're on what you could call a flat-out regimented overseeding program.

"We are an 18-hole town (North Reading) course. The greens are very small and the play works into heavy traffic. That's why we have the overseeding on a clockwork basis, whether it looks like we need it or not.

"We overseed twice a year. The first application comes in the spring, with no specified date. The weather tells us when we should get at it. But it gets done.

"Generally, it takes two days to overseed the greens. The tees take two to three days, and the fairways four to five days. There's no set time to do the roughs. In fact, we only takes passes at the rough. Nothing very heavy there.

"Our second overseeding takes place at the end of the high golf season, just as soon after Labor Day as we can. Again, the time pattern is the same. The fairways get their overseeding first, then come the tees, and lastly the greens.

"All our fine overseeding is hand-fed, using a blend of rye grasses. The work is done with all efforts to accommodate the golfers. However, the results have been gratifying. The course takes to overseeding and the condition proves the schedule is just right.

"Aerification is another story here. We contract for deep tine penetration and close down the specific nine being worked on. During overseeding, play goes on, with our crew out there during the hours of late play and on into the night. We always have the golfer's convenience in mind."

***"Another factor in the number of times we have to overseed is the type of player the course attracts. Norwood is a relatively easy course. That means we have a lot of beginners, which, in turn, means there's going to be a lot of big-time divots out there. When that happens, overseeding has to happen, too."***

**Joe Piana  
Norwood C.C.**

**GERRY FINN**



## Information Resources

# Connect to the information superhighway and get the facts you need – instantly

Whether your goals are to expand your company's marketing tools, conduct research, communicate with colleagues, or plan your next vacation, the Internet is an amazing tool.

Today, many personal computers (PCs) are sold with features needed to connect to the Internet very quickly. A company referred to as an Internet access provider can quickly set up your Internet access account. Many access providers charge monthly fees and offer unlimited Internet access time. Online services such as America OnLine and Compuserve also offer Internet access.

Pesticide applicators and others can readily find information on pests, pesticides, integrated pest management (IPM), and regulatory information from a wide range of sources. EXTOWNET (<http://ace.ace.orst.edu/info/extownet/>) provides readable non-biased information from four university extension offices on pesticide toxicity and environmental fate. Learn about IPM at (<http://ipmwww.ncsu.edu/nipmn/states/Northeast.html>), the National IPM Network-Northeast Region web site.

Most universities and government agencies post a wide array of informational resources on their web sites. Check out UMass Extension (<http://www.umass.edu/umext/>) and the U.S. EPA (<http://www.epa.gov/>).

The following is a sampling of web sites that can assist pesticide applicators and those interested in related issues.

### State Government

Massachusetts Agriculture Home Page  
<http://www.massgown.org>

Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture  
(web site under development)  
<http://www.massdfa.org>

Massachusetts - Hourly Data (weather)  
<http://iwin.nws.noaa.gov/iwin/fcst/ma/hourly.html>

### Federal Government

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
<http://www.epa.gov/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:  
At Home and In The Garden  
<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/home.html>

Agricultural Compliance Assistance Center  
<http://es.inel.gov/oeca/aglaws/>

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
<http://www.usda.gov/>

### Pesticide Toxicity

EXTOWNET:

The Extension Toxicology Network  
<http://ace.ace.orst.edu/info/extownet/>

U. of California Agriculture Health & Safety Center  
<http://agcenter.ucdavis.edu/agcenter>

NPTN-National Pesticide  
Telecommunications Network  
<http://ace.orst.edu/info/nptn/>

### Trade Associations and Professional Organizations

American Crop Protection Association  
<http://www.safnet.org>

The Pest Web (Structural Pest Control)  
<http://www.pestweb.com>

Professional Lawn Care Association of America  
<http://www.plcaa.org/>

The Horticultural Web  
<http://www.horticulture.com>

### Integrated Pest Management

Pennsylvania IPM Program  
<http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/casdept/ipm/index.html>

National IPM Network - Northeast Region  
<http://ipmwww.ncsu.edu/nipmn/states/northeast.html>

U. of Nebraska Pesticide Education Resources  
<http://www.ianr.unl.edu/ianr/pat/ephone.html>

### Research and Reference

Farmers Guide to the Internet  
<http://www.rural.org/frmguid/general/>

National Agricultural Library  
<http://www.nalusda.gov/>

## GCSANE News

# "Remember When?": GCSANE's past

Remember when? looks back at the GCSANE's many significant events and individuals of the past.

### 25 years ago

According to a report from New Hampshire sister superintendents' association sources, a unique plan for mosquito control has been devised by Portsmouth Country Club superintendent Bill Barrett.

Barrett said that his crew installed purple martin bird houses in strategic spots on the course hoping to solve a costly problem and eliminate a nuisance to the member golfer.

Added Barrett, "knowing quite a bit about the purple martin and having joined a purple martin society for the purpose of receiving their literature, we feel this will be the answer to our severe mosquito problem at Portsmouth Country Club."

The year of the experiment, now a fixed procedure at Portsmouth C.C., was 1972.

### 15 years ago

"It was a smooth ride on America's Flagship course."

That statement by USGA president Bill Campbell, quoted in *Golf World*, pretty much puts the wrapper on last month's USGA National Amateur Championship at The Country Club.

Course superintendent Pete Coste took the compliment in stride, but he couldn't hold back his satisfaction amidst a slew of laudatory comments from tournament officials and players.

"I'd have to go a long way to find fairways as good as these," offered Ohio State golfer Chris Perry, whose uncle is the pride of spitball country and a future baseball Hall of Famer, Gaylord Perry. "I don't know how they did it, but I felt I was walking on and hitting off rugs all week."

One of the worst games of golf on record was the horrendous round shot by Kevin Lyons of O.M. Scott during a

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# “Don’t neglect your course superintendent” says Bradley Klein in article for GolfWeek

By Bradley S. Klein  
(Reprinted from GolfWeek)

Ask any golf course superintendent and most will tell you the hardest part of their job is dealing with in-house politics.

Growing grass, dealing with drainage, making sure there’s enough air and sunlight to keep their course in shape: these are the things they’ve trained years for. The best university program in turf management can’t prepare them for all the nonsense entailed in responding to 400 bosses, all of them self-styled experts, and most of them accustomed to having their way.

Besides reading about poa annua grass and the percolation rates of various soils, it might be helpful to spend a semester studying Machiavelli and Carl von Clausewitz. Not that dealing with the vagaries of weather is easy. But at least in responding to Mother Nature you don’t have to negotiate along the way with someone else, or worse, yet, a committee.

The image of the superintendent as country bumpkin greenkeeper, dressed in jeans and suspenders, with little more than a few years as a farmhand for training, are long gone. You might not know it from the way some members treat their hired help, but superintendents

today are among the most highly trained professionals in the golf business. Most of them are licensed by their states to deal with pesticides, and many of them continue their college education through ongoing seminars organized by the 18,000-member Golf Course Superintendents Association of America or its regional affiliates. With all the recent developments in golf equipment, swing technique, and physical training, the single most dramatic changes in how golf looks and plays have come by way of refinements in golf course maintenance.

Whenever I have questions about a golf course, I go to the superintendent. The only trouble is finding them, because the good ones spend a lot more time in the field than in their office taking calls. Good superintendents know their course as well as (sometimes better than) they know their children. And why not, because they spend more time tending them?

That’s why it’s always awkward, if not downright rude, when some thunderous business tycoon of a member raises hell about, well, you name it. “There’s not enough water in the ponds.” “Why can’t you get your mowers off the course earlier.” “The greens are too bumpy.”

“Whaddya mean I can’t take my golf cart on the fairway?”

Many of these concerns come from excessive expectations. In the business, it’s called “The Augusta National Syndrome.” An awful lot of people expect their golf courses to look like the annual site of The Masters. Of course, they wouldn’t be willing to fund the necessary maintenance budget. And little do they realize that tournament venues are primed to look a certain way for one week a year and don’t look that way every day.

Superintendents under such scrutiny have virtually no job security. I know many superintendents who have been on the job a decade and still fear the wrath of a disgruntled member or clique. If the course gets highly ranked, they are told “it’s about time.” Should the golf course fall off in comparison to some neighboring layout, the superintendent’s head is first on the chopping block.

The problem is compounded by the proliferation of management companies, most of them eager to cut costs. Many of these firms, interested only in short-term profits, try to force out a veteran superintendent and replace him or her with a low-paid newcomer just to save \$20,000-\$30,000 a year, while putting a multi-million dollar asset at risk.

To be fair, there are clubs who value who and what they have. It’s crucial to extend long-term contracts so that a superintendent doesn’t feel constantly under the gun. The main reason that golf courses are over-watered, for instance, is that greenkeepers are afraid to make a mistake and “lose” an area of the course to brown-out or disease. They end up saturating the place just to cater to certain expectations about “green is better,” even if this invites other kinds of turf trouble.

Besides long-term contracts, clubs can encourage, and pay for, their superintendents to attend annual training workshops. It would also help if superintendents are made to feel welcome, teeing it up occasionally with members, or

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## Mass. Pesticide Bureau News

### Unusable pesticide collection program update

The Mass. Department of Agriculture Pesticide Bureau is continuing work on a program to collect unusable pesticides for disposal. The goal of the program is to gather all unusable, unregistered, or waste pesticides at collection sites for disposal by a hazardous waste hauler.

Individuals disposing of waste pesticides will bear most of the program’s cost. However, the cost is significantly reduced by the design and scale of the program.

In April, 1997, over 6600 surveys were sent to licensed applicators for completion and anonymous return. The purpose was to assess quantities of products and types of pesticides to be collected. The UMass

Extension Service is compiling the data. To date, a limited number of surveys have been returned.

The Pesticide Bureau hopes to conduct the collection program at four sites throughout the state. Actual dates have not been set, however late October or early November of this year are the anticipated dates. Empty plastic pesticide containers may also be collected at the same time if coordination of these programs is possible.

Notice of exact dates and details of the program will be mailed to licensed applicators, trade publications, and publications serving the interested community.



## **"Don't neglect your supt."**

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representing the club in area events. Clubs also can establish procedures so that complaints can be directed through a committee rather than having the superintendent respond to every complaint.

A long-term master plan to guide maintenance and any renovation projects is the only way to avoid the nastier forms of in-house politicking. Perhaps most important of all is establishing an adequate budget so that the superintendent doesn't have to cut corners.

For their own part, superintendents need to maintain regular communications. Proper signage at the first and 10th tees about pesticide application or cart traffic can forestall misunderstandings out on the course. A column in the club's monthly newsletter, or a note directly to the members, also helps.

What a pleasure it is to see a club that values its superintendent, and to see golfers acknowledging it, as well. The media in general, and televised golf in particular, do a lousy job of crediting the hard work most superintendents do. Among

the many gracious touches in Justin Leonard's British Open acceptance speech were his words praising Royal Troon's superintendent, William McLachlan.

When is the last time a winner of a major publicly thanked the greenkeeper? Come to think of it, when's the last time you thanked your superintendent?

**GolfWeek architecture editor Bradley S. Klein is a professor at Clark University, Worcester, Mass., and author of a new collection of golf essays, *Rough Meditations*.**

## **DIVOT DRIFT...announcements...educational seminars...job opportunities...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.**

### **INFORMATION**

**1998 Mass. Pesticide Bureau Applicator License Renewal Reminder.** Licensed/certified applicators: Renewal applications for 1998 were mailed the first week of October. Applications are due December 1, 1997. Immediate completion of the renewal application will ensure you get your 1998 license quickly. Make sure your renewal is complete with signature, correct fee, and other items such as confirmation of insurance, depending on license type. The major reason the bureau sends back applications is that individuals forgot to sign them! Call Sandra Payne at (617) 727-3020, ext. 145, to follow up on your renewal application status. This is especially important if you give the renewal to someone else, such as a secretary or insurance agent, to complete. If you have moved, or have changed your mailing address or name, mail or fax changes to the Pesticide Bureau. Our fax number is (617) 727-7235. It is essential that the bureau has your current name and address before mailing license/certification renewals.

**A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency work group** has recommended the agency establish a permanent advisory panel to address minor use pesticides and how they will be affected by the 1996 FQPA. The committee would serve as an advocacy/communications link between EPA and growers. Green industry groups are concerned that minor use pesticides will be forced off the market under EPA's FQPA implementation scheme, which will not approve uses that overflow a "risk cup" of aggregate exposure risks. Minor use growers fear manufacturers will register pesticides for major crops first, filling the "risk cup" before many minor use pesticides are registered.

**Connecticut is reviewing environmental enforcement programs**, the result of a review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA identified several areas needing improvement, among them water and pesticide enforcement programs. EPA reported the state has been issuing minor actions of enforcement for major violations.

### **SEMINARS & COURSES**

**GCSANE and GCSAA present a seminar** entitled *Managing People for Peak Performance and Job Satisfaction*, Thursday & Friday, Nov. 13 & 14, 1997 (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.), at The International, Bolton, Mass. Member cost is \$220; non-member cost is \$330; Continuing Education Units: 1.4. For more information, or to register, call 1-800-472-7878.

**1997 Business Short Course: Look to the Future, November 11-12, 1997.** Sponsored by UMass Extension and the Mass. Nursery and Landscape Assn.; at the Holiday Inn, Boxboro, Mass. Take the opportunity to network and develop new business strategies at the Business Short Course. This program offers workshops that will help you meet business and management needs in the Green Industry. The two-day program will help you assess collection practices, understand labor laws and estate planning, and learn about new planting techniques and the newly introduced Asian Longhorned Beetle. Take the opportunity to hear two panels of prominent business people share success stories and marketing strategies. An update of legislative issues will be discussed by MNLA legislative leaders. Finally, expect to laugh when Dave Caperton of Humor Consultants, Inc., suggests innovative ways to increase productivity by incorporating humor in the workplace. This year, there will be two student sessions on Tuesday, November 11. These are aimed at high school juniors and seniors and college undergraduates to introduce trends and career/educational opportunities in the industry, and to provide an overview of industry associations and certification programs. (A one-day student rate of \$20 is available before November 4; \$30 after November 4.) To register, send \$75 per person per day by November 4 (\$95 per person after November 4), payable to MNLA, to: MNLA, P.O. Box 387, Conway, MA 01341. For more information call Rena Sumner at 413-369-4731, or Kathleen Carroll at 413-545-0895.

UMass Extension offers **Green School**, a comprehensive training program for Green Industry professionals, in winter 1998. This program provides training about the relationship of horticultural fundamentals to environmental quality and instills a sense of environmental stewardship in participants. Knowledge of plants and plant systems as well as integrated pest management (IPM) is the foundation of the curriculum. The 60-hour program is for garden center managers and employees; athletic, municipal, and institutional turf managers; lawn care operators; grounds managers; landscapers; and professional gardeners. Horticulture professionals will learn plant management with emphasis on IPM concepts and optimization of pest control through proper cultural management. Participants may choose Landscape Management or Turf Management. The 29 topics will be taught by UMass Extension educators and faculty as well as other professionals. Participants successfully completing the course will receive a certificate in their area of specialization. New this year are advanced one-day workshops March 12, 17 and 19. Topics include: Introduction to Information Technology in the Green Industry, Overwintering Container Grown Plants, Pruning Fruit Trees, Clay & Skinned Area Management, and Turning Soil Test Results into a Fertility Program. Mass. pesticide credit: 12 hrs. for categories 29, 36, and 37; 6 hrs. for licensed applicator training. Completion of Green School will satisfy part of the "Experience Requirement" necessary to sit for the certification exam in categories 29, 36, and 37. Pesticide credit is also available from other New England states. Green School begins January 6, 1998 and will be held one day per week until March 6, 1998. Sessions are 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Royal Plaza Best Western, Marlboro, Mass. The application deadline is December 1, 1997. The course fee is \$450. For application or other information, contact Kathleen Carroll at (413) 545-0895 or Mary Owen at (508) 892-0382.



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## Host Superintendent Profile

# Meet host superintendent Robert DiRico, Brae Burn C.C.

The host superintendent for our October meeting was Robert DiRico of Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Mass.

Robert DiRico has been golf course superintendent at Brae Burn Country Club since 1989. Prior to that, he was superintendent at Bellevue C.C. for five

years. Bob was also superintendent at Brockton C.C. for one year, and worked at Jupiter Hills Club in Florida for three years.

He became a Certified Golf Course Superintendent in 1989, and is a graduate of Stockbridge Winter School. Bob also

has a B.S. in sociology from Georgia Southwestern College.

He has served on the GCSANE board of directors since 1989, and is currently president of the organization.

Bob has three sons: Neil, Danny, and Michael. He resides in Newton.

## "Remember When?"

... from page 4

monthly superintendent bash at the well-groomed Andover Country Club.

Lyons, who finished with a "news-paper" 120, was nicknamed "the snowman" after starting his round with five straight 8's. On the sixth hole Kevin ran out of golf balls, but

eventually managed to complete it with the help of Max Mierzwa who helped him ball-hawk the woods to produce every form and condition of missile on the grounds.

## 5 years ago

September found the golfing geniuses of the GCSANE trying to attack the stately environs of The

Orchards, one of the gems of legendary golf course architect Donald Ross.

Top winners were Andy Langlois of Foxboro C.C. and Tatnuck's Steve Chiavaroli, who fashioned an even-par 70. Low net honors went to Jim Beane of Mt. Pleasant and Dick Zepp of Whitinsville, who concocted a brilliant 59.

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